

Arizona Invasive Species Advisory Council

May 23, 2006 10:00a.m. - 4:00p.m.

Arizona Department of Agriculture – Room 206

1688 West Adams Street, Phoenix

MEETING NOTES

Introductions

Tom McMahon called the meeting to order at 10:00am. Larry Riley welcomed Duane Shroufe (Co-Chair) and John Caravetta, Assistant Director from the Department of Agriculture. Mr. Riley mentioned that Mr. Caravetta will take the lead once he leaves at noon time. Mr. Riley also noted some language changes to the second working draft. Mr. Riley asked for agenda changes and two were given. The first was from Ed Northam, who would like to discuss what Weed Management Areas (WMA's) are and their role. The second was from Mr. Riley who would like to discuss an invasive species merit badge for Boy Scouts. It was decided that WMA's would be discussed after the adoption of the meeting minutes and the merit badges would be discussed during lunch.

Mr. Shroufe thanked the council for all the hard work and mentioned that they are doing a very good job on the report work. He mentioned that the writing team is doing a very good job at getting all the information into a report form. He noted that the team report information is invaluable, but we may not be able to use all of the information for this final Council report to the Governor. The Council needs to remain focused on the final report and we are off to a good start on the final product. He encourages the Council to be concise and talk about the issues and make any additions or subtractions if needed. We need to make sure that the final "final" gets reviewed and that we use the time wisely today. The reports are very impressive so far. Mr. Caravetta had similar comments as well.

Review and Vote on Minutes/Notes

A typo error was reported by Carolyn Hull Sieg, which was corrected. Ms. Hull Sieg motioned and Dr. John Brock seconded the acceptance of the meeting notes from the May 2nd AISAC meeting. **Motioned unanimously approved by Council.**

WMA Discussion

Mr. Northam passed out a handout on WMA's and discussed what they are and what their role is currently. Mr. Riley asked about other alternatives that would meet the needs of the land/yard owners. Chris Trask mentioned that there is a conservation group in Tucson which is preparing a new brochure regarding this. Mr. Riley mentioned that backyard water gardens are becoming more popular and there are challenges with this. Mr. Northam noted that there is information on this in a publication called "Master Gardner Press", which was revised this year. Dr. Brock asked if anything included "critters". Mr. Riley mentioned one dilemma is vector control and the use of mosquito

fish. They are trying to find less damaging alternatives and are looking at using native Gila topminnows.

Discussion - 2nd Working DRAFT of Governor's Report

A discussion was held on the 2nd working draft and changes were made. *(This discussion lasted most of this meeting and is contained within the notes on this 2nd working draft and the 3rd working draft to be discussed at the June 5, 2006 meeting of AISAC).*

Boy Scout Merit Badge Discussion

Mr. Riley discussed the proposal of a new merit badge for Boy Scouts on invasive species. The purpose of a merit badge is to raise the awareness of conservation issues with young people. One recommendation from the Arizona Game and Fish Department is that there is merit to this idea. Mr. Riley suggests the council to look into this in the future.

Parking Lot

No issues were presented

Old Business

No issues were presented

New Business

No issues were presented

Identification of future meetings dates/times/locations

June 5th, 12 Noon to 4p.m., Department of Agriculture – Room 206

Call to the Public

None were presented

Adjourned at 3:36pm